THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Only one operator, namely M/s. East West Airlines has imported three used B-737 aircraft; out of the three, one aircraft is 17 years of age and the other two are 11 year old from the date of manufacture.

(b) and (c) No flight is released with snags endangering life of passengers. Before Certificate of Airworthiness is issued or revalidated, all documents pertaining to the aircraft issued by the manufacturers and airworthiness authorities of the country of export are thoroughly scrutinised by the officers of the DGCA. The aircraft is also physically inspected, test flown and defects, if any, are rectified. On satisfactory report only, C of A is revalidated.

Compensation payable by Air Taxi operators

2715. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the air passengers travelling by the aircraft operated by the private air taxi operators are entitled to the accident compensation in case of partial/per manent disability or loss of life as a re suit of air accident;

(b) if so, what is the amount of compensation payable to such victims of air accidents by the private air taxi operators; and

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to avert air accidents toy the private air taxi operators?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHR7 MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The minimum amount of compensation which the operator is liable to pay is as follows:—

(i) In the event of death/permanent injury of passenger of 12 or more years of age R». 5,00,000,

(ii) In the event of death/permane; injury of a passenger who is below I years of age Rs. 2,50,000.

(ii) In the event of injury which to suits in temporary disablement R 500.00 per day for the period durit which passenger continues to be disable or a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 whichever less.

(c) Steps are continuously taken 1 enhance the level of air safety like in plementation of recommendations emana ing from investigation of air accidents an dissemination of safety information an monitoring of cockpit voice recorders.

Inland air travel tax levied by air tax operators

2716. SHRl A. NALLASIVAN:

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATIOI AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic a'r travellez being carried by private air taxi opera tors, are levied 15 per cent of the far as Inland Air Travel Tax;

(b) if so, what is the amount collected by Government from the individual' Ai taxi operators for the year 1990-91 an< 1991-92 month-w'se and operator-wise;

(c) whether Government have consti tuted an Inspectorate or any such agency to verify as to whether -the IATT collect ed by the private operators from the ai traveller", are duly remitted to the Gov emsnent;

(d) if so, the name and designation o the agency entrusted with the responsi bility; and

(e) if not, by when Government pro. pose to constitute such an agency so ai to avo'd evasion of the IATT paymere collected from the passengers by the pri vate operators?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AV1A. TION AND TOURISM (SHRl MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sri

(b) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.